



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Louisville District

Notice to Navigation Interests

Notice No. 2007-009

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<http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/optm/>

In Reply Refer to:

CELRL-OP-TM P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059 (502) 315-6703

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LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

1. A number of recreational and fishing craft operators have been entering the approach channels of the navigation locks on the Ohio River without requiring lockage. This practice is extremely dangerous because of the movement of large commercial tows through these areas.
2. Fishermen and recreational boaters have also occasionally delayed commercial vessels by mooring their craft within the lock approach channels. Such an action is a violation of Code of Federal Regulations 33 CFR 207.300 (Blue Book) which states that no vessel shall moor in any reach of a navigation channel and that commercial cargo tows have precedence over recreational craft at locks. These federal rules and regulations are available either from the Louisville District Office (502) 315-6733 or the locks.
3. For the above-stated reasons, all recreational/fishing craft not actively engaged in lockage, are prohibited from entering the approach channels to the locks within the limits of the arrival points. These limits are marked by signs at the project or indicated in the US Army Corps of Engineers Ohio River Navigation Charts. Individual navigation charts for printing and information for ordering spiral bound chart books may be obtained on the Corps web site www.lrl.usace.army.mil.
4. If lockage is desired, boaters should signal the lock operator with the pull chain on the end of each lock, call on marine channel 13, or call the Lock directly using a cell phone. If the lock is not immediately available, boaters should position their vessels a safe distance from the approach channel to avoid possible personal injury or damage to their boat from the wake caused by commercial tows leaving or entering the locks.
5. Lockmasters will enforce adherence to the "Blue Book" regulations and, if required, solicit aid from local law enforcement.